

CLAIMS

I claim:

1 1. A pallet constructed of rubber composite, comprising:
2 a molded upper member constructed of a rubber composite;
3 and
4 a molded lower member constructed of a rubber composite;
5 and
6 means for interlocking the upper and lower members in order
7 to form a pallet.

1 2. The pallet according to claim 1, wherein said rubber
2 composite is composed of at least 20% rubber.

1 3. The pallet according to claim 1, wherein said rubber
2 composite is composed of recycled rubber, natural rubber, sulfur
3 and a filler material.

1 4. The pallet according to claim 3, wherein said filler
2 material is selected from the group consisting of coal ash and
3 plastic.

1 5. The pallet according to claim 1, wherein said rubber
2 composite is composed of about twenty pounds of recycled rubber,
3 about ten pounds of natural rubber, about five pounds of sulfur
4 and about ten pounds of filler material.

1 6. The pallet according to claim 1, wherein:

2 said upper member comprises a plurality of planks and a
3 plurality of crossbeams, each of the planks having a top and a
4 bottom, each of the crossbeams having a top, a bottom, a first
5 side and a second side, the bottom of each of the planks being
6 attached to the top of each of the crossbeams; and

7 said lower member comprises a plurality of planks and a
8 plurality of crossbeams, each of the planks having a top and a
9 bottom, and each of the crossbeams having a top, a bottom, a
10 first side and a second side, the top of each of the planks
11 being attached to the bottom of each of the crossbeams;

12 the crossbeams in said upper member and the crossbeams in
13 said lower member are equal in number; and

14 said means for interlocking comprises at least one notch
15 defined in each of the crossbeams of said upper member and a
16 corresponding holding wedge formed on the second side of each of
17 the crossbeams of said lower member, the notch and the wedge
18 being aligned and forming a snap fit to interlock said upper and
19 lower members.

1 7. The pallet according to claim 6, wherein said planks in
2 said upper member extend beyond a periphery of all of said
3 crossbeams in order to form an overhang around a perimeter of
4 the pallet for facilitating shrink wrapping of items placed on
5 the pallet.

1 8. The pallet according to claim 6, further comprising a
2 retaining wall extending upward from a periphery of said upper
3 member for retaining items placed on the pallet.

1 9. The pallet according to claim 6, wherein said rubber
2 composite is composed of at least 20% rubber.

1 10. The pallet according to claim 6, wherein said rubber
2 composite is composed of recycled rubber, natural rubber, sulfur
3 and a filler material.

1 11. The pallet according to claim 10, wherein said filler
2 material is selected from the group consisting of coal ash and
3 plastic.

1 12. The pallet according to claim 6, wherein said rubber
2 composite is composed of about twenty pounds of recycled rubber,
3 about ten pounds of natural rubber, about five pounds of sulfur
4 and about ten pounds of filler material.

1 13. The pallet according to claim 1, wherein:

2 said upper member comprises a plurality of planks, a
3 plurality of blocks, and a support grid, each of the planks
4 having a top and a bottom, each of the blocks having a top, a
5 bottom, a first side and a second side, the support grid having
6 a top and a bottom, bottom of each of the planks being attached
7 to the top of the support grid, the top of each of the blocks
8 being attached to the bottom of the support grid; and

9 said lower member comprises a plurality of planks, a
10 plurality of blocks, and a support grid, each of the planks
11 having a top and a bottom, each of the blocks having a top, a
12 bottom, a first side and a second side, the support grid having
13 a top and a bottom, the top of each of the planks being attached
14 to the bottom of the support grid, and the bottom of each of the
15 blocks being attached to the top of the support grid;

16 the blocks in the upper member and the blocks in the lower
17 member being equal in number; and

18 said means for interlocking comprises at least one notch
19 defined in the first side of each of the blocks in said upper
20 member, and a corresponding holding wedge formed on the second
side of each of the blocks in said lower member, the notch and

22 the holding wedge being aligned and forming a snap fit to
23 interlock said upper and lower members.

1 14. The pallet according to claim 13, wherein said planks
2 in said upper member extend beyond a periphery of all of said
3 blocks in order to form an overhang around a perimeter of the
4 pallet for facilitating shrink wrapping of items placed on the
5 pallet.

1 15. The pallet according to claim 13, further comprising a
2 retaining wall extending upward from a periphery of said upper
3 member for retaining items placed on the pallet.

1 16. The pallet according to claim 13, wherein said rubber
2 composite is composed of at least 20% rubber.

1 17. The pallet according to claim 13, wherein said rubber
2 composite is composed of recycled rubber, natural rubber, sulfur
3 and a filler material.

1 18. The pallet according to claim 17, wherein said filler
2 material is selected from the group consisting of coal ash and
3 plastic.

1 19. The pallet according to claim 13, wherein said rubber
2 composite is composed of about twenty pounds of recycled rubber,
3 about ten pounds of natural rubber, about five pounds of sulfur
4 and about ten pounds of filler material.